

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 15-19, 21, and 22 have been canceled. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-14 and 20 will be pending.

Allowed Subject Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for finding that claims 1-14 and 20 are allowable.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 15-19, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by, or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,778,851 and 4,840,991. Applicants traverse the rejections. However, to advance prosecution, claims 15-19, 21, and 22 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejections to these claims moot.

CONCLUSION

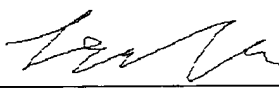
It is believed that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned regarding any questions concerning this amendment. In the event that the filing of this paper is deemed not timely, applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Office is hereby authorized to charge the petition fee or any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP Deposit Account No. 11-0600..

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON LLP

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